The legislative instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Lauren B. Bailey.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

Senate Bill No. 417 by Senator Riser

Keyword and summary of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

ELECTION CODE. To provide relative to qualifying for an election for certain candidates. (gov sig)

Report adopts House amendments to:

- 1. Add that a candidate serving in the armed forces who is deployed outside of the US will not be required to pay any qualifying fee or any additional fee.
- 2. Add that the candidate must also certify he is eligible to become a candidate pursuant to U.S. Dept. of Defense Directive 1344.10.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

<u>Present law</u> provides that a person who desires to become a candidate in a primary election qualifies as a candidate by timely filing notice of his candidacy, accompanied either by a nominating petition or by the qualifying fee and any additional fee imposed.

<u>Present law</u> provides that a candidate whose notice of candidacy is accompanied by a nominating petition will not be required to pay any qualifying fee or any additional fee.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and provides that a candidate serving in the armed forces who is stationed or deployed outside of the US will not be required to pay any qualifying fee or any additional fee.

<u>Present law</u> provides for the notice of candidacy to be filed in any of the following ways:

- 1. In person by the candidate.
- 2. By certified mail or commercial carrier, provided the notice is received within the qualifying period provided by law by the qualifying official.
- 3. By an agent on behalf of the candidate.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and provides that a candidate serving in the armed forces who is stationed or deployed outside of the U.S. may file his notice of candidacy by facsimile or electronic mail.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that when a candidate serving in the armed forces of the US is stationed or deployed outside of the U.S. files his notice of candidacy and does not pay any qualifying fees or any additional fee, he is required to file with the qualifying official a certification prepared by the secretary of state certifying that at the time of qualifying he is serving in the armed forces of the U.S., he is stationed or deployed outside of the U.S., and that he is eligible to become a candidate pursuant to U.S. Dept. of Defense Directive 1344.10.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 18:461(A)(1); adds R.S. 18:461(A)(2)(d) and 463(A)(1)(d))